United Nations ST/IC/2005/13

Secretariat

23 February 2005

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

Subject: **First day of issue — 3 March 2005: "Endangered Species series"**

Commemorative stamps

1. On Thursday, 3 March 2005, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of 12 stamps depicting endangered species of flora. This will be the thirteenth set of stamps in the UNPA multi-year Endangered Species series, which was launched on 3 March 1993 to highlight the need to protect species throughout the world that are in danger of extinction. This issue is devoted exclusively to endangered orchids.

Denomination:
US$ 0.37

Endangered species:
Vanda coerulea
Cycnoches spp.
Cattleya trianae
Aerangis modesta

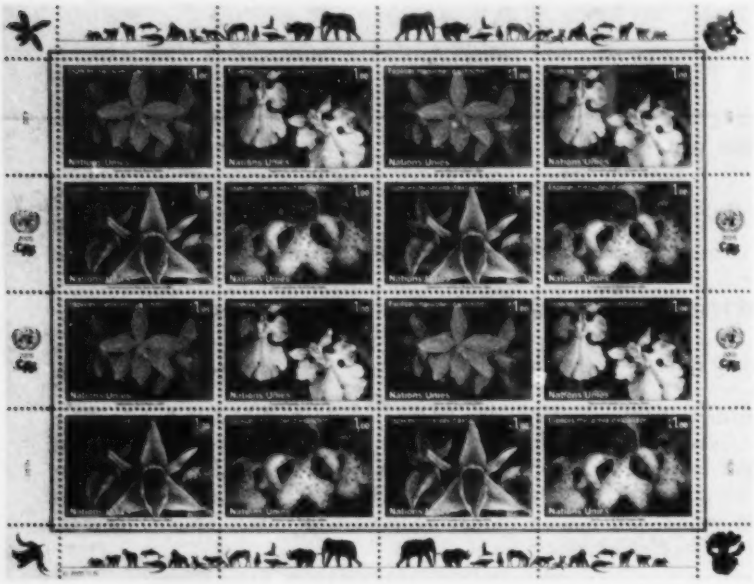
Artist:
Boris Zlotsky
(Russian Federation)

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 17 March 2005.

05-24686 (E) 250205

2. The issue will consist of three sheets of 16 stamps in denominations of $0.37, F.s. 1,00 and €0,55. Each sheet will illustrate four different endangered species.

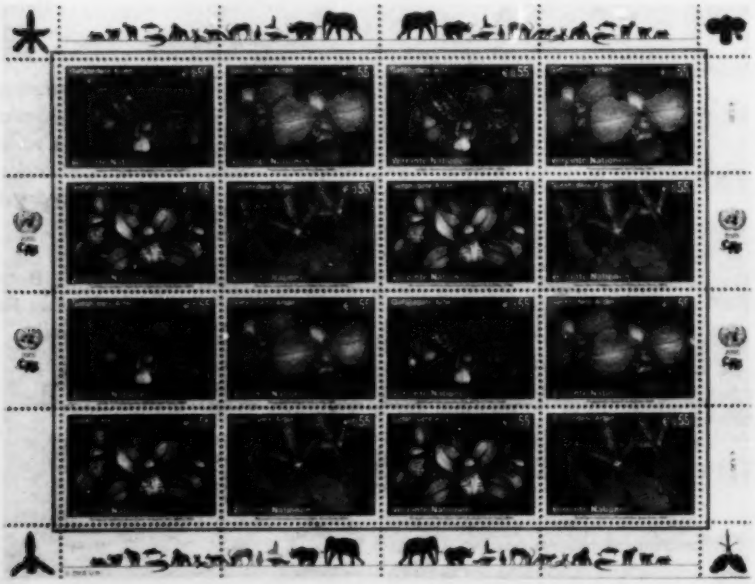
(Currency equivalents: F.s. 1,00: $0.88 and €0,55: $0.73, subject to exchange rate fluctuation.)



Denomination:
F.s. 1,00

Endangered species:
Laelia milleri
Psygmorchis pussila
Dendrobium cruentum
Orchis purpurea

Designer:
Boris Zlotsky
(Russian Federation)



Denomination:
€0,55

Endangered species:
Ansellia africana
Phragmipedium kovachii
Cymbidium ensifolium
Renanthera imschootiana

Artist:
Boris Zlotsky
(Russian Federation)

2005 Endangered Species annual collection

3. On 3 March, the United Nations Postal Administration will release the 2005 Endangered Species annual collection folder of single mint stamps.

4. The 2005 annual collection will be contained in a specially designed album. The album devotes separate pages to each of the 12 endangered species. Descriptive information is provided in English, French and German, and each stamp is beautifully highlighted by a colourful array of photographs relative to the species. It should be noted that the Endangered Species series **will not** be included in the annual collection albums to be issued later in 2005.

5. The stamps are not affixed inside the album, although spaces and mounts have been provided for this purpose.

Triple-cancelled Endangered Species annual collection folder

6. Since the 2005 Endangered Species annual collection folder will contain stamps in all three denominations, special arrangements have been made by UNPA to make available to collectors the Endangered Species collection folder in which the stamps will be affixed and cancelled 3 March, the first day of issue in New York, Geneva or Vienna, as appropriate.

7. The policy of offering triple cancellations for the Endangered Species annual collection will continue throughout the duration of this series.

Maximum cards

8. The twenty-sixth set of UNPA maximum cards will also be issued on 3 March 2005. Three different cards will be produced to accommodate the three different se-tenant blocks of four stamps being issued. To conform to the maximum cards issued for the Endangered Species series in prior years, each maximum card will reproduce photographs of the species appearing on each of the stamps in the se-tenant block. The appropriate se-tenant blocks of stamps will be affixed and cancelled first day of issue for each respective office. The maximum card cancelled United Nations New York will sell for $1.86. The cancelled United Nations Geneva card is priced at $3.89, while the cancelled United Nations Vienna card is priced at $3.30. Because of a new uniform pricing structure instituted in 2005 for all three UNPA offices, all three maximum cards are now subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

9 UNPA will sell the plain cards (without stamps affixed) for $0.25.

Special limited silk cover

10. The release of the 2005 Endangered Species series stamps will coincide with the Postage Stamp Mega-Event to be held at Madison Square Garden from 3 to 6 March. To mark this event, UNPA has produced a special limited-edition silk cover. The $0.37 *Vanda coerulea*, the F.s. 1,00 *Laelia milleri* and the €0,55 *Ansellia africana* will be affixed to the covers and cancelled appropriately. These covers will sell for $3.95 while supplies last.

General information

11. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets only. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain those items on Thursday, 3 March, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) The temporary sales counter located on the east side of the Secretariat Lobby between the cafeteria and news-stand against the windows from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

12. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

13. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.